

How much blood is needed?

In Michigan hospitals, patients need about 2,000 blood products daily. That's one patient every 12 seconds--the majority of whom would die without treatment. Many of us only think of blood needs in emergency situations-like auto accidents. But for thousands of people, using blood products is a way of life. People with sickle cell disease, cancer, heart disease, leukemia, and other major illnesses need blood on a regular basis. Here are the typical amounts of blood products a patient might need for a particular procedure or treatment:

Procedure

Liver transplant
Kidney transplant
Heart transplant
Adult open heart surgery
Newborn open heart surgery
C-section
Miscarriage
Orthopedic (knee surgery)
Prostate cancer surgery
Hysterectomy (complications)
Aneurysm

Automobile accident Leukemia Sickle cell disease Premature newborn

Bone marrow transplant

Average units used

6-10 red cells, 20 plasma, 10 platelets

1-2 red cells

4-6 red cells

2-6 red cells, 2-4 plasma, 1-10 platelets

1-4 red cells, 1-2 plasma, 1-4 platelets

2 red cells

2-4 red cells

4-6 red cells

2-4 red cells

2-4 red cells

4-6 red cells

1-2 red cells every other day for 2-4 weeks

6-8 platelets daily for 4-6 weeks

4-40 red cells

2-6 red cells, 6-8 platelets daily for 4-6 weeks 10-15 red cells to treat severe complications

1-4 red cells while in Intensive Care

Please give blood